

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to the resolution of ratification of the Protocol Amending the Tax Convention with Spain (Treaty Doc. 113–4).

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4829–4870

Measures Introduced: Thirteen bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2122–2134, and S.J. Res. 50. **Page S4856**

Measures Reported:

S. 1694, to require any Federal agency that issues licenses to conduct activities in outer space to include in the requirements for such licenses an agreement relating to the preservation and protection of the Apollo 11 landing site, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S4856**

Measures Passed:

Ukraine's Revolution of Dignity 5th Anniversary: Senate agreed to S. Res. 74, marking the fifth anniversary of Ukraine's Revolution of Dignity by honoring the bravery, determination, and sacrifice of the people of Ukraine during and since the Revolution, and condemning continued Russian aggression against Ukraine, after the committee amendment to the preamble was withdrawn, and agreeing to the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S4860–64

Thune (for Portman) Amendment No. 926, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S4861**

Thune (for Portman) Amendment No. 925, to amend the preamble. **Page S4862**

Payment Integrity Information Act: Senate passed S. 375, to improve efforts to identify and reduce Governmentwide improper payments.

Pages S4864–70

Human Rights in Brunei: Senate agreed to S. Res. 198, condemning Brunei's dramatic human rights backsliding, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and the committee reported amendment to the preamble.

Page S4870

Treaty Approved: The following treaty having passed through its various parliamentary stages, up to and including the presentation of the resolution of advice and consent to ratification, two-thirds of the Senators present having voted in the affirmative, the resolution of ratification was agreed to by a vote of 94 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. EX. 209): The Protocol Amending the Tax Convention with Spain (Treaty Doc. 113–4), after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S4847–50**

Rejected:

By 4 yeas to 92 nays (Vote No. EX. 207), Paul Amendment No. 924, to amend the Protocol to protect tax privacy. **Page S4849**

By 4 yeas to 92 nays (Vote No. EX. 208), Paul Amendment No. 921 (to the resolution of ratification for the treaty), to provide a reservation to the Protocol. **Pages S4849–50**

Withdrawn:

McConnell Amendment No. 910, to change the enactment date. **Page S4847**

During consideration of this treaty today, Senate also took the following action:

By 94 yeas to 1 nay (Vote No. EX. 206), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the treaty. **Page S4847**

McConnell Amendment No. 911 (to Amendment No. 910), of a perfecting nature, fell when McConnell Amendment No. 910 (listed above), was withdrawn. **Page S4847**

Treaties and Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the only amendments in order to Protocol Amending Tax Convention with Swiss Confederation (Treaty Doc. 112–1), Protocol Amending the Tax Convention with Japan (Treaty Doc. 114–1), and Protocol Amending Tax Convention with Luxembourg (Treaty Doc. 111–8), be Paul Amendments No. 922, 919, 923, 918, and 920; that the motions to invoke cloture on Protocol Amending Tax Convention with

Swiss Confederation (Treaty Doc. 112–1), Protocol Amending the Tax Convention with Japan (Treaty Doc. 114–1), and Protocol Amending Tax Convention with Luxembourg (Treaty Doc. 111–8), be withdrawn, the pending amendments to the treaties be withdrawn, and Senate vote on ratification of the treaties at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, in consultation with the Democratic Leader, on Wednesday, July 17, 2019; and that the motions to invoke cloture on the nominations of Clifton L. Corker, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee, Lynda Blanchard, of Alabama, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Slovenia, and Donald R. Tapia, of Arizona, to be Ambassador to Jamaica, ripen following disposition of the Protocol Amending Tax Convention with Luxembourg (Treaty Doc. 111–8). **Page S4847**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 11 a.m., on Wednesday, July 17, 2019, Senate vote on the resolutions of ratification for Protocol Amending Tax Convention with Swiss Confederation (Treaty Doc. 112–1), Protocol Amending the Tax Convention with Japan (Treaty Doc. 114–1), and Protocol Amending Tax Convention with Luxembourg (Treaty Doc. 111–8), as under the order of Tuesday, July 16, 2019; that following disposition of Protocol Amending Tax Convention with Luxembourg (Treaty Doc. 111–8), Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Clifton L. Corker, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee; and that notwithstanding Rule XXII, at 2 p.m., on Wednesday, July 17, 2019, Senate vote on the motions to invoke cloture on the nominations of Clifton L. Corker, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee, Lynda Blanchard, of Alabama, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Slovenia, and Donald R. Tapia, of Arizona, to be Ambassador to Jamaica, and that if cloture is invoked, the votes on confirmation of the nominations occur at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, in consultation with the Democratic Leader, on Thursday, July 18, 2019. **Page S4851**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, July 17, 2019, Senate resume consideration of Protocol Amending Tax Convention with Swiss Confederation (Treaty Doc. 112–1). **Page S4870**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 56 yeas to 40 nays (Vote No. EX. 205), Peter Joseph Phipps, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit.

Pages S4830–40, S4840–47

Messages from the House:

Page S4852

Measures Referred: **Page S4852**
Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Pages S4852–53**
Measures Read the First Time: **Page S4853**
Executive Communications: **Pages S4853–56**
Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S4856–58**
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Page S4859**
Additional Statements: **Page S4852**
Amendments Submitted: **Pages S4859–60**
Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S4860**
Privileges of the Floor: **Page S4860**
Record Votes: Five record votes were taken today. (Total—209) **Pagea S4847, S4849–50**
Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:39 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 17, 2019. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4870.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATION

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Mark T. Esper, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Defense, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Kaine, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

FACEBOOK'S PROPOSED DIGITAL CURRENCY

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Facebook's proposed digital currency and data privacy considerations, including S. 1060, to deter foreign interference in United States elections, after receiving testimony from David Marcus, Calibra, Facebook, San Francisco, California.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 143, to authorize the Department of Energy to conduct collaborative research with the Department of Veterans Affairs in order to improve healthcare services for veterans in the United States;

S. 174, to provide for the establishment of a pilot program to identify security vulnerabilities of certain entities in the energy sector, with an amendment;

S. 253, to coordinate the provision of energy retrofitting assistance to schools, with an amendment;